REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Johnson et al.** (USP 6,580,950, previously cited) in view of **Tran** (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0019954). Claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Johnson et al.** in view of **Tran** in view of **Hilt** (USP 6,738,820, previously cited). For the reasons set forth in detail below, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Initially, it is noted that minor clarifying amendments have been made to the claims. In particular, the independent claims have been amended to clarify that the gateway card transmits and receives data between different networks.

The Examiner has applied the **Johnson et al.** and **Hilt** references in the same manner as in the previous Office Action. However, the Examiner now relies on **Tran** to teach the claimed "power control unit".

The **Johnson et al.** reference was discussed in detail in the previous response, and that discussion is hereby incorporated by reference. Therefore, a detailed discussion of **Johnson et al.** will not be repeated here. As discussed previously, applicants agree with the Examiner that **Johnson et al.** do not disclose the claimed "power control unit". The Examiner asserts that

Tran discloses the claimed power control unit in paragraphs [0022], [0028] and [0033] of the **Tran** reference. See Office Action page 3, lines 1-9.

The **Tran** reference discloses a method and apparatus for regulating transceiver power consumption for a transceiver that transmits and receives signals between a computer and a network. For example, the transceiver may be part of a network interface card (NIC) or may be coupled to the computer processor. See, e.g., section [0004].

The **Tran** reference is concerned with controlling power consumption of an Ethernet transceiver to solve the problems that occur when the Ethernet transceiver is used with a portable or laptop computer having a limited power supply (i.e., a battery). More particularly, when a user of the portable computer or laptop is operating the computer and is not connected to a network, the Ethernet transceiver will continuously check for a signal from the network, drawing power from the battery and shortening the life of the battery. Further, when a user is remotely connected to an Ethernet network, long periods of time may pass where the network interface card is inactive and not transmitting or receiving signals from the network, yet the Ethernet transceiver continues to unnecessarily draw power from the battery during this time. See section [0004]. As described in the Abstract of the **Tran** reference, transceiver power consumption is controlled based upon whether the presence or absence of a received data signal is detected.

As shown in Fig. 3 of **Tran**, the Ethernet transceiver includes a signal detector 118 that is responsive to a data signal received (receive data RD) from a communications system through a connector 95 or may be responsive to a fiber optic signal received through a connector 120 (see section [0027]. As described in section [0028], an auto power down system 130 is coupled via

power control lines to every component of the transceiver and controls whether the components draw current from the computer power source.

As shown in Fig. 4, the auto power down system 130 is responsive to signal detector 118. In particular, the signal detector 118 receives a received data signal RD 142 and a reference signal VREF 145. If the received data RD signal has a magnitude that is greater than the reference voltage VREF 145, then the signal detector 118 interprets this situation as an "energy detect" and sends an energy detect signal 119 to an auto power down state machine 140 and programmable timers 132. See section [0030].

The operation of the auto power down state machine 140 of **Tran** is shown in Fig. 5 and described in sections [0033]-[0036]. In summary, if the energy detect signal 119 indicates that energy is detected (i.e., a received data signal is present), then the system enters a "full on" state and the entire transceiver draws power from the computer power source (see steps 156 and 150 in Fig. 5 and section [0033]). If the absence of energy is detected (i.e., a received data signal is not present) for a predetermined amount of time, then the system enters a "full off" state in which an off signal is sent to every component of the transceiver except the transmitter and signal detector 118 (see steps 152, 158 and 160 in Fig. 5 and section [0033]).

One difference between the present invention and the cited prior art is that the present invention controls a power mode of an ***information processor***, whereas the cited prior art (**Tran**) teaches controlling power to ***a transceiver*** that is part of a network interface card.

As shown in Fig. 1 of the present application and described, for example on page 12, lines 8 – 14, it is clear that the present invention controls the power mode of an information processor (e.g., a personal computer 520).

The Examiner recognizes that the **Johnson et al.** reference does not disclose or suggest changing a power mode of an information processor from a power-saving mode to a normal mode when the receiving unit receives the remote control request, and changing the power mode from the normal mode to the power saving mode when the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled is complete (see, e.g., Office Action, pages 3, lines 1-4).

Applicants agree with the Examiner that **Johnson et al.** does not disclose or suggest the above-noted features of the power control unit. *In fact,* ***Johnson et al.*** *is completely silent regarding any power saving device or operation.*

The Examiner asserts that the **Tran** reference discloses the features not disclosed by the **Johnson et al.** reference. However, **Tran** does not alleviate the deficiencies of **Johnson et al.**

Referring to claim 1 as exemplary, first, **Tran** does not disclose or suggest a power control unit that changes a power mode ***of an information processor*** that is connected to a gateway card. In contrast, **Tran** teaches controlling a power mode of **a transceiver** that is part of a network interface card (NIC) or may be coupled to a computer processor. See, e.g., section [0004] of **Tran**.

Second, **Tran** does not disclose or suggest the type of control that is performed by the claimed power control unit. More specifically, according to the claimed invention, the power control unit changes a power mode of the information processor from a power-saving mode to a

normal power mode ***when the receiving unit receives the remote control request***, and changes the power mode of the information processor from the normal power mode to the power-saving mode ***when the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled is complete***.

Tran teaches placing the transceiver in a powered state (full on) when received data is detected and teaches placing the transceiver in a power off state (full off) when no data is received for a predetermined period of time. However, **Tran** does not disclose or suggest changing the power mode of an information processor from a normal power mode to a power-saving mode ***when the setting of remote control data to an apparatus to be remote controlled is complete***. **Tran** simply changes the transceiver to a power saving mode when no data is received and is completely unrelated to controlling power to the transceiver (or any other components) based on when the setting of remote control data to an apparatus to be remote controlled is complete.

Accordingly, **Tran** does not alleviate the deficiencies of **Johnson et al.** and the combination of references does not result in the claimed invention. Therefore, independent claim 1 (and similarly each of independent claims 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16) patentably distinguish over the cited prior art for at least the above reasons.

Finally, the **Hilt** reference was combined with **Johnson et al.** and **Tran** to reject dependent claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19-20. However, it is submitted that **Hilt** does not alleviate any of the deficiencies of **Johnson et al.** and **Tran** discussed above. Therefore, it is

submitted that dependent claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 patentably distinguish over **Johnson et al., Tran** and **Hilt** for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend.

Furthermore, with respect to claims 19 and 20, each of these claims recites timing when the normal power mode is to be changed to the power-saving mode. In particular, the timing is a completion of transmitting e-mail. It is submitted that none of the references disclose or suggest the features recited in claims 19 and 20.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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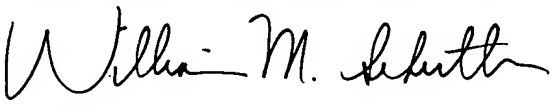

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